

Proposed Amendment of Claim 1:

1. A symmetrical, miniature, hand-held trackball pointing device for interchangeable use in either a right hand or left hand of a user, comprising:
 - a) a symmetrical housing adapted and configured to fit interchangeably into a user's right or left hand ~~proximate the metacarpal (i.e., first phalangal) region of the fingers thereof, a front portion of said housing comprising at least three curved surfaces adapted to snugly fit into the first phalangal of the metacarpal portion of a index, a middle, and a ring finger, respectively, of said user's right or left hand, said housing further comprising a rear curved surface adapted to snugly rest in a palm portion of said user's right or left hand,~~ said housing being adapted for retention in said user's hand between said metacarpal regions ~~of said index, middle, and ring fingers of said user's hand~~ and a palm thereof ~~by no more than a thumb thereof, thereby freeing portions of said fingers beyond said post-~~ metacarpal regions ~~of said index, middle, and ring fingers for tasks unrelated to said~~ pointing device; including typing
 - b) ...

Spec. : - ^m optimal bands